



CITY OF MIAMI SPRINGS, FLORIDA

The **Ecology Board** met in Regular Session at 7:00 p.m., on Tuesday, August 23, 2011 in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

1. ROLL CALL/CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 7:08 p.m.

Present were: Chairman Martin Crossland
 Vice Chair Wendy Anderson-Booher
 Board Member Ann Trina Aguila
 Board Member Carl Malek

Also present: Board Secretary Aly Paz

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the June 28, 2011 regular meeting were approved as written.

The motion to approve the minutes was offered by Vice Chair Wendy Anderson-Booher, seconded by Board member Ann Trina Aguila and it was unanimously carried on voice vote.

3. OLD BUSINESS

A. Recycling at City Buildings & City Events

Chair Martin Crossland reported he had concentrated on the message he received from Assistant City Manager Ronald Gorland regarding the strategic plan and did not inquire into any recycling issues. He will put it in his agenda to contact Mr. Gorland.

B. Rain Barrel Workshop for Miami Springs

An email (attached) was received by Barbara McAdam, Program Assistant, Miami-Dade County Extension/Consumer Services Department regarding setting up a Rain Barrel Workshop here in Miami Springs.

Discussion followed.

The board members agreed to speak with their respective Council member to see if they would want a workshop in Miami Springs. They will let their Council person know the board would really like to be given the go ahead to schedule one.

4. NEW BUSINESS

A. Strategic Plan

Chair Crossland opened discussion on the email receive from Mr. Gorland requesting input form the Ecology Board for the Strategic Plan the City is working on.

Discussion followed.

The following questions were agreed upon to submit.

1. Recycling: To suggest a citywide official standard policy in respect to recycling at all city locations: City Hall; Public Works; Recreation Center; Swimming Pool; Adult Center; Golf Course; as well as providing recycling bins at all locations where waste bins are located within the city (Community Center; Community Pool; Playing Fields; Playgrounds; Curtiss and Ludlam Paths, etc.).
2. Recycling at City Events: To suggest a citywide standard policy in respect to recycling at all official city events, such as: River Cities Festival, 4th of July Celebrations, Activities at the Circle (Lion's Fish Fry, All Angels Movie Nights), Annual Luau, etc.
3. Promoting "grey water" usage in Miami Springs to save the sewer system (I know it's not ours now, but it could still use some help) and to irrigate gardens with water that would otherwise be wasted.
4. Drop-off containers provided by the City at an accessible location for recycling CFL light bulbs.
5. Encourage participation to create a community garden. There is already a group discussing this. I plan to join this group as a representative of the Ecology Board. Once an acceptable plan is presented, it should have the official blessing of the City Council.
6. Look into an "Adopt-a-Street" program. Broward County has a program we can use as a base. Rather than "Adopt-a-Street", we feel we should go for "Adopt-a-District". The Board has already tentatively mapped out 12 districts within the city. (Attached)

After reading the information forwarded by Mr. Gorland, Board member Aguila felt he was requesting questions for a survey to be passed on to the residents and suggested the attached eight questions.

All members agreed these would be good to include with the minutes for the Council to decide if they would like to use them.

B. Accomplishment Objectives

1. CUTE Project

Board member Carl Malek would like to see the City adopt a city wide clean-up project. His suggested name is CUTE, standing for "Clean Up the Environment." He introduced proposed a City map with areas marked for groups to agree to care for.

Members agreed and liked his idea.

2. Community Garden

The idea of a community garden was brought up.

Discussion followed.

Board members all said they would support a community garden and agreed to look into it further.

3. Recycling Participation/Standards

Board members definitely agree they would like to see the City get more active with recycling at all the City facilities, specific recycling bins through out the City and at all City events.

4. Rain Barrel Workshop

Board members would like to see the City agree to host a Rain Barrel Workshop.

Board secretary Aly Paz informed the board members of the elevator work to be done at City Hall and that the Advisory Boards would have to hold all their meetings at the Rebecca Sosa Theater at the Community Center. She will send them an update mid September.

5. ADJOURNMENT

There was no further business to be discussed and the meeting was adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,


Aly Paz
Board Secretary

Approved as written during meeting of: 01-24-2012

“The comments, discussions, recommendations and proposed actions of City Citizen Advisory Boards do not constitute the policy, position, or prospective action of the City, which may only be established and authorized by an appropriate vote or other action of the City Council”.

Aly Paz

From: McAdam, Barbara Lynn [bmcadam@ufl.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, August 23, 2011 3:42 PM
To: Aly Paz; Martin Croslyn
Subject: Rain Barrel Workshop for Miami Springs
Importance: High

Dear Aly & Martin and members of the Ecology Board,

We are in the process of creating our calendar of workshop events for 2012 and would like to include Miami Springs as one of our monthly scheduled workshops.

The Rain Barrel Workshop has expanded a bit and now includes a presentation on composting and also more information on how to save water inside the home, office etc. as well as outside in the landscape. Additionally we bring the Miami Dade County Water & Sewer and Office of Sustainability Departments showerhead and light bulb exchange program which is open to all Miami Dade County resident's.

The Rain Barrel/Water Conservation & Composting Workshops are free to attend. We do need to charge for the rain barrel but the cost has been reduced to \$40.00 and folks need to register to attend the workshop and advise if they wish to purchase a barrel so we can make sure we have enough materials and seating.

Please take a few minutes to visit our blogspot and websites noted below for additional on our program and all programs offered by your local Extension Office.

And please review your calendar and let's select a date for the workshop.

Barbara McAdam/Program Assistant
FYN/Florida Yards & Neighborhoods
Miami-Dade County Extension/Consumer Services Depart.
18710 S.W. 288th Street Homestead, Fl. 33030
(305) 248-3311 ext. 245

<http://miami-dade.ifas.ufl.edu>

floridayards.org

<http://www.greenyardsmiami.blogspot.com>



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Questions for the Survey

1—Do you recycle: always, sometimes, or never?

2—Are you willing to use drop off containers provided by the City for recycling CFL lightbulbs?

3—How likely are you to recycle at City events if containers provided?
Always, sometimes, never

4—How likely would you be to recycle food and drink containers while you are using City Community Center/ Community Pool/ Playing Fields/ Playgrounds/ Curtiss Path/ Ludlam Path...if containers provided?
Always, sometimes, never

5—Do you want the City to provide funding to bring an Adopt- a- Tree event to Miami Springs? (20,000 to 40,000 dollars)

6—For business owners: Are you aware of the Commercial Recycling requirement?
Yes/ No

7 Do you think that Miami Springs has a littering problem?

8—Are you aware of the Household Chemical Recycling facility on 58th St. ? Would you bring things there, such as paint cans or a broken television set?

MIAMI SPRINGS • VIRGINIA GARDENS AREA

PROPOSED "CUTE" PROGRAM AREAS

C: clean
U: up
T: the
E: environment

